PATENT

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A connector for joining a first fiber optic cable end and a second fiber optic end includes first and second connector ends adapted to receive the first and second fiber optic cable ends. Each connector end houses a plurality of termini for terminating the fiber optic cable ends. The connector also includes a first alignment feature and a second alignment feature. The first alignment feature includes a plurality of flanges formed on the first connector end to define a plurality of key openings and a plurality of key protrusions formed on the second connector end adapted to fit into the plurality of key openings to ensure proper alignment of the first and second connector ends. The second alignment includes a plurality of termini keys with each termini key being disposed on each of the termini and fitting into a key termini slot formed in the first and second connector ends for receiving the termini. The first and second alignment features ensure that the first connector end is properly aligned with respect to the second connector end and that each termini disposed in the first connector end is properly aligned with each termini disposed in the second connector end.